



EVERY TUESDAY

# CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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## Seven Miles a Minute in a Car!

### THE SPEED MEN WHO RISK LIFE AND LIMB

ACCUSTOMED as we are to hearing of the amazing speeds of jet-propelled aircraft, it is still difficult for us to realise that a man has travelled along the ground at nearly seven miles a minute! Yet that is the achievement of John Cobb. Driving his 2600 h-p Napier-Railton car over the sun-baked Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah, this 47-year-old London fur broker has set up a new land speed record of 394.196 m.p.h., reaching more than 400 m.p.h. over part of the measured mile.

Men have been risking life and limb for countless years in their efforts to conquer space, but their record-breaking feats are far from being mere stunts. Most developments of modern car efficiency and safety, for instance, have come from the motor race-track.

It was in 1895 that the world's first official motor race was held—in France—and it was won at a speed of 15 m.p.h! Today such a speed for a car raises a smile, but fifty years ago it was considered a triumph. As car designers and mechanics improved their knowledge and technique, however, speeds rose almost unbelievably. In 1907 Lee Guinness, a daring British driver, clocked 112 miles an hour at Daytona Beach, and later in that year increased this to over 115 m.p.h. at Saltburn, in the north-east of England.

#### A Narrow Escape

After Lee Guinness came that wonderful band of British drivers: Malcolm Campbell, Henry Segrave, Parry Thomas, George Eyston, and John Cobb—who all raised land speed to new heights.

It was Sir Malcolm Campbell who first touched 150 miles an hour. His first attempts were made on the sands at Fanøe Island, Denmark, but in one trial both of his rear tyres flew off and only narrowly did he

miss disaster. Seeking another spot for his record-breaking attempt with his Sunbeam car, he decided on Pendine Sands in Carmarthenshire, and it was there, in 1925, that he registered a new record of 150.86 m.p.h.

#### The Rivals

From then on it became a contest between Sir Malcolm, Sir Henry Segrave, and Parry Thomas to be the first man to drive a car at 200 miles an hour. All made valiant and thrilling attempts, but at last it was realised that no sand track in Britain was long enough or firm enough for such a speed. The golden sands at Daytona were chosen for the next attempts, and two hundred miles an hour was reached—and passed.

In 1935, the scene having changed once more, this time to the Bonneville Flats, Sir Malcolm became the first man to travel at 5 miles a minute, at a speed of 301.129 m.p.h; and it was during the setting-up of this record that this intrepid motorist had one of the biggest thrills of his life.

Travelling at over 200 miles an hour, his great Bluebird car hit a bump, Malcolm Campbell was shot into the air off his seat, and the wind whipped his goggles from his head. Showers of sand and salt spray half-blinded him, but, still roaring along at that incredible speed, he steered the mighty car with one hand and

wiped his eyes clean. One slip at such a speed would have sent car and driver hurtling into a terrifying skid that might have brought disaster.

It was in 1938 that the target became 350 m.p.h, and the world was thrilled by the frantic race between John Cobb and Captain G. E. T. Eyston to be the first to achieve that speed. Cobb did it first, only to see his speed of 350.2 m.p.h beaten by one of over 357 just one day later by Eyston, who on an earlier record-breaking run lost both his goggles and his spectacles.

The story of the world's land speed record is a heroic one—a story of the indomitable pluck and determination of drivers, and of the matchless skill and painstaking efforts of designers and mechanics; and it is an unfinished story, for Man will go on trying to surpass his own achievements and create new records, however wonderful, for as long as the spirit of adventure and progress endures.

### Digging Peat While the Sun Shines

CHILDREN in the Graveship of Holme, a district of many remote villages in the West Riding of Yorkshire, have found their own way of beating the coal crisis. Now that the cooler days are approaching they will reap the reward of their labours.

Accompanying their parents during the holidays, they were busy digging peat on 40 acres of surrounding moorland, for the right to dig the peat *free* was granted during the reign of George IV under the Holme Enclosure Act.

Peat makes a good and cheering fire, for its formation is similar to that of coal. The oldest deposits, however, are modern compared with that of coal. Small blocks are cut from the peat bog, then stacked for about a month to dry in the sun, after which they are carted home to be stored for the winter.

These Yorkshire children, by digging peat while the sun shines, have done their bit in helping to conserve the country's fuel supply, and they are assured of a cosy fire this winter.

### SETTING FIRE TO A COAL MINE

A RECENT report of the US Bureau of Mines describes how, early this year, a coal mine in Alabama was set on fire as an experiment. The idea was to obtain gas from the burning coal.

The fiery mine was sealed off and left to burn for 50 days while coal-gas and other gases from which synthetic oil can be obtained were drawn off from the underground furnace by means of pipes.

The Bureau of Mines recommends this process for profitably using layers of coal that are so placed that mining them in the ordinary way would be too difficult or expensive.

## THE TAIL OF A SHETLAND



Britain's largest flying-boat, the Shetland, was launched recently at Rochester, Kent. Designed to carry 70 passengers and a crew of eleven in her two decks, she has a maximum speed of 267 m.p.h. and a range of 4500 miles. Here is the tail of the Shetland.

## THE BOY WHO TOOK THE JOB

ONE day in 1895 Alfred Kaiser, international teacher of the piano, told a 15-year-old boy who had just played his "party-piece" that he would "never play the piano as long as he lived." Undismayed, the lad walked along Great Portland Street, London, saw a "Boy Wanted" notice in the window of a music-publishing firm, and took the job.

Thus started the 52-year career in music, which officially ended on September 30, of Jonathan Reeves, a man who has sent music for examinations into almost every home in Britain, and certainly into every country in the British Commonwealth.

After 25 years in his "Boy Wanted" job, during which he rose to manager, Jonathan Reeves became the first music publisher to the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. Every examination held by the Royal Schools since that date has been on music sheets prepared and printed under his care.

A musician's life was a hard one when Jonathan started, and "impossible if you didn't have a foreign-sounding name." Now, Mr Reeves is glad to say, it does not matter if your name is Jack Brown—if the Royal Schools of Music like your work, they will publish it.

In 52 years he has seen quite a few other changes. There has been, for instance, a tremendous

increase in the interest taken in good music during the last ten years, and this is due almost wholly, Mr Reeves thinks, to the B.B.C. Last year the Royal Schools held 120,000 examinations, more than half as many again as in any pre-war year.

Nearly every famous musician of the last half-century has known Mr Reeves, for they have all gone to the Royal Schools of Music at one time or another. When Sir Donald Tovey was preparing his monumental work on Bach's Fugues and Preludes, Jonathan Reeves "chased him all over England and Europe for two years," collecting his notes, until he finally got it complete.

### THE SIGHT-SEER

A SEA-LION at the Edinburgh Zoo ventured forth to see the sights of the big city not long ago. Leaving its pond, it scaled a ten-foot wall, and by some means or other found its way out to the busy road which skirts the zoo. Passing motorists were amazed to see a sea-lion "strolling" along the footpath and quickly informed the zoo authorities. The wanderer, having had "one crowded hour of glory," put up no opposition to a combined operation by several policemen, a number of motorists, and four zoo keepers, and was peacefully persuaded to return to its home.

## THE BEST OF FRIENDS



Eight-year-old Jenny Fishlock is the envy of all her friends, for she is the daughter of the Bristol Zoo lion keeper, and helps with the feeding of these lion cubs



## WHAT IS THE USE OF GOLD?

THE recent sale of £20,000,000 worth of British gold to buy dollars has renewed public interest in the age-long problem of this precious metal which man by his labour wins from the earth and often proceeds to bury elsewhere in great vaults.

For ages past Man has been striving to better himself through work and to put aside some of the fruits of his labours in a form that is easy to hide from his enemies and yet does not deteriorate as time goes on. The search for such ideal means has been a long one, and at some time or another cattle, slaves, shells, and so on have served as the means of storing wealth. Only later in its history did civilised mankind turn to metals, especially to gold and silver, to use them as an adornment and also for money.

The amazing thing about these precious metals is that many nations of the twentieth century have used gold and silver in their economic life in almost the same way as the nations of antiquity. Reasons for this are that precious metals are not corroded by air or water; that they are not attacked by most acids; when found in the upper crust of earth they occur mostly as free metal and do not have to be treated; and most of them, but especially gold and silver, are soft and malleable and can be easily drawn into a wire or any other shape. They were, and most of them still are, scarce and therefore of great value.

Of the several precious metals

### Thank You, Holland

LONDON Secondary schools have been given by the Central Bulb Committee of Holland 350,000 King Alfred daffodil bulbs for a bulb-growing competition. Coupled with this generous gift is an offer of 100 free trips to Holland, during the bulb-blooming season next spring, as prizes in the competition.

The Chairman of the London Flower Lovers' League, Mrs A. K. Street, is organising the competition, and three bulbs will be given to each entrant. The first judgments will take place next February, and selected schools will send their specimens to an Exhibition in Central London.

The winning school will receive a silver flower bowl, suitably engraved, and the next nine schools will receive silver medals. Other finalists will be given special Awards of Merit, issued jointly by the Central Bulb Committee and the London Flower Lovers' League.

Again our good Dutch friends are linked to us with flowers.

### ROUND CAPE HORN

FOR the first time in seven years a sailing ship is wending her way with a great spread of canvas from New Zealand to Britain by way of Cape Horn.

She is the 4000-ton barque Pamir, one of the largest sailing ships still afloat, square-rigged and with four tall masts. Before 1941 she flew the flag of Finland, but since then has been sailed by a New Zealand crew.

Hides and tallow, products of the flocks and herds of New Zealand, are packed into the holds of the Pamir. Her cargo will provide more raw material for industries in Britain.

which our Earth has yielded gold remains the most important. For, although last century's discoveries of gold in California, Alaska, and Australia have increased the world's stock of the metal, there is still a greater demand than supply. The greatest suppliers of today—the South African reef gold mines—are not likely to yield suddenly vast quantities which will unbalance the supply and demand position.

What is happening with the gold mined throughout the world? That which is not used for making such things as wedding rings, plate, and so on is usually sold to great national banks like the Bank of England, the Bank of France, or the Federal Reserve Bank of the United States. Before 1914 such gold was turned into coins—in our country into

BE sure not to miss next week's CN, in which will appear particulars of a New Kind of COLOURING COMPETITION with many attractive prizes.

Ask your newsagent now to reserve for you a copy of Children's Newspaper each week.

sovereigns and half-sovereigns. But today no such thing is permitted, for reasons which would be difficult to explain in this short article.

However, gold is still useful in world economy. Because it is in demand throughout the world and has therefore great value it is used as a reserve by the national banks. But in the past twenty years or so there has been a definite shift of most of the world's gold to America, where it is kept in the great vaults of Fort Knox.

This has come about because America, with her great industries, has been in a position to supply many needs of other countries without wanting goods from those countries in exchange. But imports from the United States must be paid for somehow, so little by little most of the world's gold has trickled to America, to lie there doing no useful work either as coins or as adornment. This is exactly what happened the other day. We found we were short of dollars with which to buy in America urgently-needed goods. Having no other source of dollar currency we used a small part of our gold reserves to pay for these goods.

Although gold is important as a stand-by we must not forget that a vast proportion of world trade has little or no use for gold as means of payment. While possession of gold may smooth out things in case of difficulty, the main source of the wealth of nations is the work of men and women.

## A Pioneer Railway

TO celebrate the centenary of the famous Caledonian Railway, which eventually extended from Carlisle to Aberdeen, a display of models and pictures of its locomotives from the date of the opening of the line has been held in Glasgow Art Gallery.

The position of railways in these early days was very different from what it is now. People were often suspicious of the engines which belched black smoke up and down the countryside and made every effort to keep the railways from their doors. As an engineer on the construction of the Caledonian Railway naively remarked: "The line will not interfere with any gentlemen's houses." Sometimes indeed, the line was covered in by imitation tunnels with grass growing on top so that it would not offend the eyes of neighbouring "gentlemen."

In its early career the Caledonian Railway had several teething troubles. At one time it was so deeply in debt that all its property—wagons, coaches, even station furniture—was labelled with the names of shareholders claiming them as hostages for debts. It recovered from this bad period, however, and never afterwards looked back. Always the line's engineers kept it in the forefront, both in locomotive and in coach design.

Most famous of the CR locomotives was the elegant number 123. Daily this engine used to haul the West Coast "racer" from Carlisle to Edinburgh over 100 miles of difficult track in 100 minutes—a prodigious feat in those days. Now this veteran is pensioned off in honourable retirement; but the network of lines across the heart of Scotland remains as a reminder of the skill of our Victorian forefathers.

## OCEAN TRAGEDIES

PERHAPS the large whale that got in the way of the 15,000-ton liner Athenic in the Caribbean Sea recently was sleeping over-soundly, or perhaps it was foolishly trying how near it could approach the ship without touching it. Whatever the explanation, poor Whale caught 15,000 tons of liner fair and square and that was the end of him. The Athenic had to be put astern before the whale floated off its bows and sank.

A similar thing happened earlier in the year when the 11,000-ton Port Hobart collided with a whale in the Pacific.

It may be that these whales are like some pedestrians we know, and, thinking they should have all the sea to themselves, refuse to get out of the way. Their lot, like the pedestrians', alas, is a hard one.

## SOLDIER ROVERS

SCOUTING is to be encouraged among the younger soldiers of the B.A.O.R. "Scouting, and the principles for which it stands," says their Commander-in-Chief, Lieut. - General Sir Richard McCreary, in a letter to his officers, "has much to offer young soldiers"; and he is particularly keen that as many young national service soldiers as possible shall join Rover crews. "We have," says Sir Richard, "a tremendous responsibility for the boys just over eighteen who soon will be coming out to Germany."

## WORLD NEWS REEL

**WOULD - BE EMIGRANTS.** People in Britain who have formally applied to go to Australia as emigrants number 400,000. At least 20,000 of them have friends or relatives in Australia ready to give accommodation in their own homes.

A scheme has been announced making Kenya Britain's main military stores depot for the Middle East. A great quantity of Army equipment is to be stored at MacKinnon Road, a railway station 70 miles from Mombasa. British troops will build depots and construct roads.

Normal diplomatic relations have been restored between Great Britain and Finland.

Coal production in the British zone of Germany rose from a daily average of 224,345 tons in July to 237,147 tons in August.

**PLANE BREAKFAST.** A trans-Atlantic plane with sleeping accommodation for 28 passengers (a Pan-American Airways Constellation) is now in service. Breakfast in bed over the Atlantic is served.

A new constitution for the island of Mauritius has been published. It is recommended that women should have the vote, and that the Legislature should have a majority of elected members.

**KIND WORLD.** New Zealanders have subscribed £25,000 during the last 12 months for medical work among South Pacific Lepers.

Early this month there is to be a radio chess match between Great Britain and Australia.

An Austrian soldier who claims that he deserted from the German Army in the Channel Islands in May 1945, came to England, and has been living here secretly ever since, recently surrendered himself to the police in London.

**SPLITTING ATOMS.** Professor T. Seaborg, of the University of California, announced to the American Chemical Society recently that scientists have succeeded in splitting the atoms of lead, bismuth, thallium, platinum, and tantalum.

Pleasure motoring has been banned in Norway.

Iraq's Director-General of Education is on a visit (arranged by the British Council) to this country to study our educational methods and training of teachers.

The million inhabitants of Manila, in the Philippines, had a complete blackout one night not long ago. A mouse caused a short circuit of the city's whole electricity system.

## HOME NEWS REEL

**GOOD NAME.** The next Mayor of Lewes, Sussex, is to be Alderman Dick Whittington.

At a service in memory of the 35,000 merchant seamen who lost their lives in the war, the red ensign flown by the Cunard White Star liner Mauretania during her wartime voyages was placed in Liverpool Cathedral.

A farmer at Lichfield has harvested 100 acres of corn every year since 1930 with a binder he bought for six shillings.

**FOOTLIGHTS.** Mounted police in London are wearing riding lights for use in badly-lit roads. The lights—front and rear—are worn on one riding boot just above the ankle.

Workmen in King's Lynn, Norfolk, unearthed a cannon thought to have been used in the town's defence when it was besieged by Parliamentary troops in 1643.

Last year in Britain 74,708 fires caused £50,000,000 worth of damage. The N.F.S. were called out 133,060 times.

**DEPOSITS.** Brides and bridegrooms at St Andrew's Church, Mottingham, Kent, will in future have to leave a deposit of ten shillings which will be forfeited if confetti is thrown in the churchyard.

Sir Walter Alcock, who died recently at the age of 85, played the organ at Westminster Abbey at the Coronations of King Edward VII, King George V, and King George VI.

Girls of the A.T.S. will form part of the Guard of Honour at Westminster Abbey for Princess Elizabeth's wedding on November 20. The Princess served in the A.T.S.

**DELICATE.** Mr Frederick John Davies of Broadbridge Heath, Sussex, who at birth was not expected to live, recently celebrated his 100th birthday.

After 200 boxes of matches had disappeared from a caravan camp at Birchington, Kent, it was found that a raven had stolen them.

## YOUTH NEWS REEL

**AUSTRALIAN GIFT.** The ingredients for Princess Elizabeth's wedding cake contributed by the Brownies, Guides, and Rangers of Australia have

After being President of the Boys Brigade for 14 years the Earl of Home has retired, but is to remain Honorary President. The new leader of the Boys Brigade is Sir Joseph P. Maclay.

The Chief Scout, Lord Rowallan, has just paid a four-day visit to Scouts in the Channel Islands.

**SCOUT MARKSMEN.** A team of Scouts from the 53rd Ayrshire (St Columba's, Largs) Group won the contest in the Major Section of the National Small-bore Rifle Association's Junior Summer Competition with a score of 768 points out of a possible 800.

The 164 Indian Scouts who arrived here on July 24 to attend the World Jamboree left for home last week, sailing in the P & O liner Strathmore. The Scouts came from all parts of India and Pakistan and represent every community.



reached London, and our picture shows the cases being checked by an Australian Guide and two Commissioners.



## PIM Goes North

ONE of the most entertaining magazines published in the Empire is *The Pacific Islands Monthly*, which has recently celebrated its 17th birthday by extending its influence to lands north of the Equator occupied by the Japanese until two years ago. Published in Sydney, PIM is so widely read by British, American, French, and Dutch people living in Pacific lands that it has decided to publish special editions for the North Pacific and for Indonesia.

Conditions in the Pacific have greatly changed as a result of the Second World War, and one change, at least, has been for the better; there is now a much closer community of interest between South Pacific countries and North Pacific countries, including the Micronesian archipelagoes once held by the Japanese and now under American control. PIM has become a link between them, reflecting this community of interest.

## EIGHTS AND EIGHTYS

AT Watton, in Norfolk, a Children's Committee has been formed to help the old folk of the town. Each child who joins the scheme "adopts" an old or sick person for the winter, running errands and doing odd jobs.

Among the first volunteers were two eight-year-olds, Andrew Carter and David Jessup, who adopted respectively an 82-year-old lady and a man of 89.

## A Golden Link

ANOTHER link has just been added to a golden chain of international friendship which Britain's railway men forged before the war.

It was added by Miss Greta Richards, daughter of an engineer, the latest of the Reigning Queens who were wont to bear the chain from Britain each year to many countries, including Russia, Germany, and Palestine, which in turn welcomed the Queen with enthusiasm, each adding another golden link to the chain which is part of the Queen's regalia.

This year Queen Greta Richards renewed the pre-war custom and carried the chain to Paris, to be welcomed at the Headquarters of the World Federation of Trade Unions, and to receive a new golden link.

The visit to Paris was set in motion when she visited the House of Commons as a guest of a Group of Women MPs, headed by Lady Megan Lloyd George, and received a United Nations Association emblem from Miss Felicity Attlee to take with her.

## GULLED ON THE GOLF COURSE

WHILE playing round the Prestwick St Nicholas Course, in Scotland, the other day, three women golfers were very surprised to see a seagull swoop down and then fly off with a ball which had just been driven from the tee.

Golf balls are precious things these days, so every golfer within view shouted and gesticulated in an effort to make the bird drop its prey. Unperturbed by the commotion it had caused, however, the seagull soared serenely out to sea with the ball still firmly in its beak, and disappeared from view.

## THESE FISH HELP TO FIGHT MALARIA

IN Russia, as in so many parts of the Old World and the New, the malarial mosquito is an ever-present threat, and in Russia a new weapon has been found to deal with it—the aeroplane.

The plane takes up quantities of a small fish named *Gambusia*, and drops them on marshes where the malarial mosquito breeds. The *Gambusia* greedily devour the mosquito larvae and the mosquito population is much diminished.

The aeroplane is the new device, but small fish as the mosquito's destroyer is not. In Mauritius, for instance, the small goldfish

which abound in ornamental waters eat the larvae, but not voraciously, and Sir Ronald Ross recorded that in India last century he saw minnows which would devour a dozen or more in a few seconds.

The most recommended killer, however, is *Gerardinus poccilides*, popularly called "millions," a minute fish probably allied to one in the Panama Canal zone. To "millions" was ascribed the immunity of Barbados from malaria. The people keep these fish even in water receptacles; and an examination of a number of these by Boyce, who first brought "millions" into notice,

showed not a mosquito larva in any of them. The Imperial Department of Agriculture there has introduced "millions" into Jamaica and Antigua, and on the recommendation of Ronald Ross they were afterwards introduced into Mauritius.

Other small fish have been employed—Bulti at Ghezirah in Egypt, and Chilwa, which in India devours not only larvae but mosquitoes. But we must note that Sir Ronald Ross, though admitting their use, was sceptical about their application on a large scale. "Millions" abound in Panama, but their efforts are not so valued as might be expected.



## Football Film Stars

Famous players from all over the country are co-operating with the Football Association in making an instructional film. Here we see members of the Arsenal and Fulham clubs before the camera giving a demonstration of throwing-in.

## A LITERARY FIND

AN unknown manuscript of an elegy written by Thomas Chatterton has been acquired by the Central Library of Bristol, where the unhappy, misguided poet was born. It is a manuscript of his elegy on the death of Thomas Phillips, a master at Colston's School, who befriended Chatterton.

## Bulldog of the Sea

TOM PIKE, a diver, was at work in Portland Harbour recently when he was attacked by a snake-like fish which snapped repeatedly at his hands.

Tom pulled on his life-line and was hauled to the surface. Baiting a large hook, he soon had his own back on his attacker, for he hauled in a conger eel weighing 18 pounds.

Conger eels are feared by divers, for these fish are the bulldogs of the sea, and once they get their vicious teeth into anything will not let go. Fishermen also treat congers with respect, for they snap at everything within reach.

Their flesh is palatable, and a popular dish in the Channel Islands is conger soup made from the head, boiled in milk and flavoured with herbs and marigold flowers.

## Helping Schools in Other Lands

SCHOOLBOYS and girls in Britain have been helping boys and girls of China to re-equip their war-torn schools. This good work has been done through the International Schools Fund, organised by the United Nations Association.

School equipment worth nearly a thousand pounds was sent recently. The money for this was raised by boys and girls in schools in many parts of Britain, and the equipment included wall maps, toys for nursery schools, projectors and film strips, instruments, microscopes, chemistry sets, and smaller things like pencils and rubbers—all desperately needed in China's schools.

Each of the parcels now on the way contains a note expressing the good wishes of the British school which raised the money to the school in China to which the parcel is addressed.

Other consignments being sent by the Fund—which has reached a total of over £14,000—include radios and scientific equipment for Poland, microfilms for Greece, and English books for Norway. Nine other countries will also receive help from British schoolboys and girls.

## A NEW MULBERRY

FOR a long time past Portland Harbour has served as a haven for British warships. Now its accommodation is to be improved by erecting an inner harbour of prefabricated units similar to some of those used in the Mulberry harbour of D-Day fame. When the work has been completed the new Mulberry will accommodate from six to nine destroyers of the Battle Class.

## Backyard Boatbuilders

COULD you build a first-class canoe of the £30 class? Two Birmingham boys have done so.

Dick Gibbins and Don Brown, 16 and 17 respectively, of Erdington, after five months' work in their back garden, can sit down and view with pride their completed canoe.

Made of 17-foot lengths of pine—which were hard to get—the boat contains two seats, and the entire job was done by the lads themselves.

When they acquire the necessary permits to sail the boat on canals, the boys plan to take camping holidays by way of the rivers and canals of England.

A fascinating hobby, and a cheap way of seeing Britain, too, for the canoe cost only £7.

## Fiction Becomes Fact

THOSE who have seen the film, *I Know Where I'm Going*, starring Wendy Hiller and Roger Livesey, will remember the whirlpool scene filmed in the Gulf of Corryvreckan, off the coast of Argyllshire. Now that thrilling episode has been re-enacted in real life.

When Mr Eric Blair of Jura, accompanied by his five-year-old son and two other children, was crossing the gulf in a motor-boat he found that the strong currents were dragging the boat into one of the whirlpools. In the tumbling race of waters their outboard engine was torn from its mounting and the boat overturned, throwing the four of them into the sea. Their fate appeared to be sealed, but by good fortune they were swept on a small islet where, wet and shivering, they were marooned for several hours.

At length some lobster fishermen noticed their signals and with some difficulty, owing to the force of the racing current, rescued them.

## THE WRONG BAIT

LIKE their parents, many of the children of Beccles, in Suffolk, are keen anglers, and when not long ago the local Angling Club organised a competition for them, no fewer than 62 tried their luck on the banks of the River Waveney.

One of the prizes went to John Catchpole—for being the unluckiest competitor. John had to use his father's putty as bait, having by mistake brought it instead of some paste he had made.

## Stamp News

AS soon as the materials and labour become available Australia hopes to produce an interesting series of stamps to replace those which have been current for many years. The new designs include a black-fellow in hunting pose, an axeman, a black cockatoo, fishes and coral, shipping, and aboriginal art.

How stamp forgeries can be detected by X-rays has been described recently by Mr W. H. S. Cheavin, radiologist at the Middlesex Hospital, when he addressed the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain. He spoke of three forgeries of rare stamps which could not be detected by normal methods, but which were clearly discernible on the radiograph. He said, however, that low power X-rays would not photograph any stamp printed with an organic ink, that is, one containing no metallic element. As current British stamps are so printed, a radiograph of them shows only the paper and watermark, the design being invisible.

## BOLD AS BRASS

THE brass band of Patcham, near Brighton, might well claim to be the youngest band in Britain. Their average age is 14, the youngest being the 11-year-old player of the second horn. The band was formed in 1944 by Police-Sergeant George Longden, who has himself won prizes for trumpet playing, and now conducts the band.

Although they have been playing together for only three years, the boys have already entered for three major competitions, and recently, competing against 22 adult bands, gained a commendation.



## Rise and Shine

OWING to staggered hours and the scarcity of alarm clocks in the cotton towns of Lancashire, it is likely that the old institution of "knocker-up" will be revived.

It was probably the increasing use of alarm clocks that put the knocker-up out of business. Older folk in the mill towns can well remember emerging from sweet dreams to the sound of his ruthless tapping on the window pane in the early morning.

He was often an old man, retired from active work at the mill, who for a small fee undertook to wake up workers in their homes. He carried a long pole to the top of which thin wires were attached. With these he would tap against bedroom windows.

Sometimes on his way home he would give an extra rattle on the pane to some person inclined to "turn over and drop off" after the first summons. The gentle craft of knocking-up was often handed down from father to son. The master craftsman must have been the knocker-up who knocked up the knocker-up; as a rule, no doubt, this would be the knocker-up's wife.

The custom gradually died out, but today retired elderly mill-workers are again looking for likely customers.

## HANDYMEN AND HANDYWOMEN



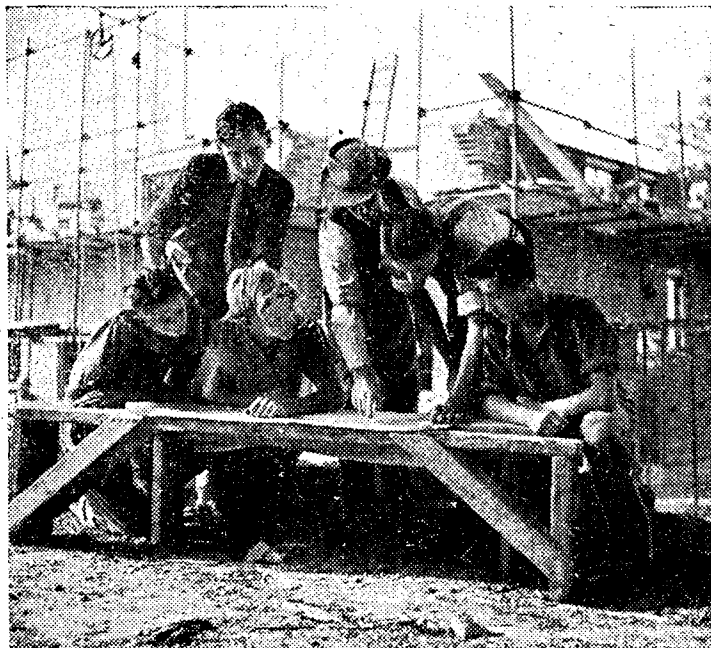
THE young people in these pictures are at Leiston (Suffolk) Grammar School, where boys learn to cook and sew and girls to build a cupboard or mend a chair leg, so that they become all-round handyfolk. From the first Form upwards boys and girls alike attend cookery, needlework, and woodwork classes.

In the lower picture girls are working with boys in the wood-



work room. In the picture of a boys' cookery class something seems to have gone awry. The cookery mistress looks shocked, and at least one pupil thinks that if "odours when sweet violets sicken, live within the sense they quicken," the same cannot be said of a burnt semolina pudding.

October 4, 1947



## Young House-Builders

Under the supervision of a master carpenter and a master bricklayer 13 apprentices between 14 and 16 years old are building houses at Addington, near Croydon in Surrey. Here, some of the boys are studying the plans of the houses they are building.

## FOUR MEN WHO CONQUERED

*In the finest sense, a sportsman is one who can take a beating with a smile, who can triumph over disaster. Here we tell of four men, each famous in his own branch of sport, whose claims to the title are undeniable.*

**JIM HALLIDAY**, a typical Lancashire lad from Bolton, is one of Great Britain's hopes for next year's Olympic Games. Jim is a weight-lifter—the Northern Counties middleweight champion—and he is a remarkable man.

He was a prisoner of the Japs for more than three years and worked on the terrible "Railway of Death" in Burma. After untold horrors and disease he returned to this country only a shadow of his former self; but Jim Halliday is made of stern Lancashire stuff, and with his indomitable spirit he renewed his interest in weight-lifting. Within a few months he had won his first championship.

Reginald Harris, the famous Manchester racing cyclist, who is one of Britain's few world champions, is another sportsman who has triumphed over adversity. Harris was badly wounded during the war and was discharged as unfit; but he overcame his physical disability to such good

effect that he was able to resume his cycle-racing career, with wonderful results.

Frank Chester was at one time a very promising batsman on the Worcestershire County staff. At the age of 17, prior to the First World War, he recorded his initial centuries, and his future looked bright. He lost his right arm at Salonika, however, and his active cricket career was finished. At least, it would have been finished had he not been determined to make his mark. Today Frank Chester is regarded as the world's finest umpire.

Stanley Mortensen, the young Blackpool and England forward, was once told by doctors that he would never play football again. He was an air gunner in the R A F, and when his Wellington bomber crashed he was one of the few survivors. But he was badly injured and spent many months in hospital with a serious head wound. In the years that have followed, however, this brilliant young footballer has confounded the doctors' opinions.

All credit to these plucky sportsmen, who refused to surrender when things went wrong and by their determination have won through and made a name for themselves.

## Radiolympia Once Again

**L**ucky are the young people who can see the first National Radio Exhibition—Radiolympia—to be held at Olympia, London, since the war, for many scientific marvels are on show there. It is open from October 1 to October 11.

Among its most fascinating features are those illustrating radar and electronics. Jets of water demonstrate how electron streams are controlled in valves; and a model railway with three trains is controlled electronically by photo-electric cells.

Ultrasonics—sound beyond hearing—is demonstrated by these inaudible sounds causing a

crystal to vibrate in oil. The intense vibration of the crystal heats the oil.

In another section is a demonstration of "Rebecca," an approach system for aircraft in which a model plane is used.

In "Television Avenue" 24 firms are showing 39 receivers.

As for radio sets, they vary from large radiograms to tiny sets which will fit into a lady's handbag. The smallest exhibit is "Minimike," a microphone about the size of half-a-crown.

Admission to Radiolympia is 2s 6d for grown-ups and one shilling for children.

## The Editor's Table

### WE MUST DELIVER THE GOODS

THE plain facts of the crisis now facing Britain can be put very simply: we must export more or expire.

The nation's strength in the past has rested on a lively world trade which has filled the shops of all the continents and made customers of every race. Shops and customers are still waiting with ready money to buy our goods, the quality of which has always been valued as the best the world can provide; and the question arises, Can Britain deliver the goods?

Can Britain deliver the goods? That is the anxious question now being asked in a world short of clothes, short of coal, short of machinery, and short of all kinds of household equipment. The British nation's reputation as a manufacturer of first-class goods is at stake; all over the world men are wondering whether the Britain of today has the same ingenuity and the same skill in production as the Britain their fathers knew.

BRITISH hands have not lost their cunning, nor do British people today lack the will to work. What we do need, however, in confronting this supreme national task of delivering the goods, is a reinforcement of faith in ourselves and in our capacity to achieve the seemingly impossible.

We know now that a new Battle of Britain is before us—a battle in which goods, money, exports, currencies, exchanges, and above all, hard work, must play their parts. The weapons in themselves are unexciting, but they are vital to victory, and we must invest them with the same glamour as we did the planes and tanks of war-time. And we must bring to the battle a similar united dedication and enthusiasm.

Upon the outcome of this battle depends not only our country's survival as a maker of goods which the world wants, but our greatness as a moral and spiritual leader in world affairs. The world expects much of Britain's leadership in humanity's councils which cannot be fulfilled unless Britain maintains her strength through her industries. The hard facts of economics are inseparable from the hopes and dreams of ordinary men for a fairer and finer life.

If those hopes and dreams are to be realised Britain must deliver the goods; and if Britain "to itself do rest but true" there can be no doubting that she will do so.

### JUST AN IDEA

*The best of all pleasures is to give pleasure to others.*

### Well Done, Fusiliers

THE officers and men of the 1st Royal Scots Fusiliers, temporarily in Delhi, recently offered their services in helping to run refugee camps in their spare time. This unselfish offer was eagerly accepted by the emergency committee of the Cabinet. The soldiers worked equally for Hindus and Moslems and were not used as guards or escorts.

They thus upheld the British Army's fine record of Humanity, and, we may be sure, the unhappy refugees, victims of a cruel and senseless intolerance, will long gratefully remember the efforts of the kindly Scots on their behalf.

### BRAVO, NORTHAMPTON

NORTHAMPTON is showing what voluntary enterprise can do in serving the needs of older people. Twenty-five years ago a Northampton minister preached a sermon about the duty of Christians to care for their brethren. That sermon resulted in a group of home-steads for old people where they have independent homes, comfort, care, and companionship.

This happy community, which recently celebrated its 21st birthday, has served as a model for other such homes since founded in Northampton, and today this town is setting a shining example of what can be done to meet this national need—the care of people in the evening of their lives. Age has too often had to wait on private charity or public institutions. The spirit of our times calls for a new way which respects the dignity of old people and offers them privacy as well as friendship.

All honour to the people of Northampton for the splendid way they have found of serving those who in their lifetime have served others.

### Under the E

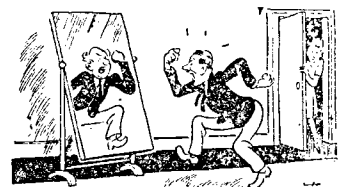
LONDON Fruit Glut Hits Italy, says a headline. Who has been throwing rotten apples?

SOME women tend to live on scraps. Must be quarrelsome.

PEOPLE should get into the habit of travelling by train. A riding habit.

FRECKLES go with red hair. But how do they come?

SOME people let their gardens run to waste. Others prefer to see the garden walk.



A CERTAIN man is caused much annoyance because he looks like someone else. And he is someone else.



## Good Do-ers and Bad

THERE is an old country expression which describes as a "good do-er" an animal that flourishes on a comparatively small amount of food. Now it seems that human beings, too, are good or bad "do-ers," and that all persons cannot be expected to flourish equally on the same amount of calories, for the Medical Research Council has published A Study of Individual Children's Diets (Stationery Office, 6s), which is based on an investigation made by Dr E. M. Widdowson before the war.

Dr Widdowson studied the diets of at least 20 boys and 20 girls in every age-group of a year between one and eighteen and he found that among children of the same age and size there would always be one who ate twice as much as any other. This was not because the bigger eater was greedy but because he or she needed the extra calories to keep as fit as the others. He found among the children wide variations in calorie intake.

This seems to put the "greedy" boy or girl in a different light: he or she may simply be a "bad do-er"—one who naturally requires more calories than others in order to develop at the same rate as the "good do-ers." This is something which those responsible for our younger folk's health should carefully study.

## On a Showery Day

THERE is ever a pleasure in watching the sky  
On a showery day:  
The sun peeps out with a mischievous eye  
As though to say:  
"The clouds are weeping, but here am I:  
If I shoot my rays through the tears they shed  
A rainbow arch will curve overhead,  
And transcend the gloom  
Of a wet afternoon."

H. M. Young

## Editor's Table

PETER PUCK  
WANTS TO KNOW

If men of letters  
always answer  
them.



MR HERBERT MORRISON says we must grow every crumb. How do you make a crumb grow?

A MAN says that when he wants to see someone he usually does. But they won't always see him.

A LADY wants to know how to remove a coffee stain from a tablecloth. Cut it out.

It is suggested that we could make dress material from grass. We already have handkerchiefs made of lawn.

DERBYSHIRE County Council have ordered thousands of tons of grit in case of winter snow. But Derbyshire people have plenty anyhow.

## THINGS SAID

WE must, from our own sense of honesty and pride in our traditions, provide for our own needs by our own efforts.

Sir Stafford Cripps

SOME of the most effective missionary work in England is done by people who give their precious hours doing church chores.

The Vicar of Shoreham, Kent

BRITAIN could help to turn the wheels of civilisation quickly if she would mine as much coal as she did before the war.

Mr Harriman, U.S. Secretary of Commerce

BY virtue of our calling we are all patriots of humanity and, as such, know no frontiers.

Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, to an international gathering of surgeons

THINGS are better now than when I was a boy.

Mr F. J. Davies, of Horsham, aged 100

## True Wealth

TWO items of news underline the hard lesson we are all learning in these days—that money is only a symbol of the true wealth created by hands and brains.

Britain has sold to America 20 million pounds' worth of gold, and the transaction was completed in a New York bank by merely moving the gold from one vault into another.

In London it is announced that large stocks of the old green £1 Bank of England notes are to be circulated owing to the shortage of paper.

Gold and paper in themselves are of little real value, but the gold nib of a pen may write words that sway the hearts and minds of men everywhere, or change human destiny. The world is ruled by ideas, not money.

## LUNCHTIME LOITERER

IT was lunchtime in Westminster and the streets were thronged with office workers; then came a hold-up of this pedestrian traffic and the crowd peered on tiptoe to discover the cause.

It proved to be a mouse in the middle of the pavement, sitting up with all the dignity it possessed and blinking at everybody around.

Nobody seemed to know quite what should be done about it, and when a stalwart young fellow suddenly appeared, they probably thought, "Ah! here's somebody who will deal with the situation." He stooped as though to pick the little creature up, but instead of this, just stroked the top of its head with his little finger and then, with an air of satisfaction, went his way.

By this time it seemed to occur to the mouse that it could not remain there on show indefinitely. So, quite leisurely, it sauntered across the pavement (the crowd stepping back deferentially), slid off the kerb, passed under a stationary car, and disappeared.

# Tireless Servant of India

ANNIE BESANT, who was born on October 1 just a century ago, wrote her name indelibly in the story of India's march to freedom; and it seems opportune to recall some of her work in that vast land which since her day has seen many of the momentous changes for which she laboured so earnestly.

It was in November 1893 that Annie Besant first set foot in India to undertake a four-month tour, in the course of which she covered 6000 miles and delivered countless lectures.

Everywhere she was received with the greatest enthusiasm, and at Adyar, where she was to deliver a lecture, Indian students spent the previous night in the hall to make certain of a seat.

This tour was followed by a brief stay in England, but after this she returned to India to make her permanent home in Benares. She then threw herself with energy into the question of Indian reforms.

## Education First

Education was the first problem to engage her attention, her main idea being not to force Western methods upon India, but to help the peoples of India to develop their own cultural life in their own way. She declared her hopes to be: "... an education founded on Indian ideals and enriched, not dominated, by the thought and culture of the West."

As part of her plan, she set up in 1898 a Central Hindu College in Benares, herself outlining its principles as: "... the uniting of Indians and Englishmen in friendly co-operation, in a common work, using racial differences for help, not hindrance, the affording of a cheap but first-class education—the cost being met in the old Indian fashion by the gifts of the pious and the self-sacrifice of the teachers, instead of out of the pockets of the students."

So successful was this college that she later described how boys would "... walk literally hundreds of miles, begging their way, to reach the school, and to all arguments as to 'No room,' 'We cannot take more free scholars,' such a 'one would only answer, 'Mother, you must teach me.'"

The cause of education in India certainly owes a great deal to the influence of Annie Besant; and, in passing, it is interesting to note that she assisted in organising the Indian Boy Scout movement, and in 1921 became

Honorary Commissioner for all India of the United Boy Scouts Association.

The caste system also claimed her attention, and in particular the sad case of the Untouchables, or outcastes of India. Her methods were revolutionary. "In one of our schools," she wrote, "we made the first lesson a bath. The children now come clean, but for some time every boy had to bring on his head a pot of water in order that the first lesson might be the cleansing of his own body. Then a clean cloth was given, and the dirty cloth from the home was washed and put out to dry."

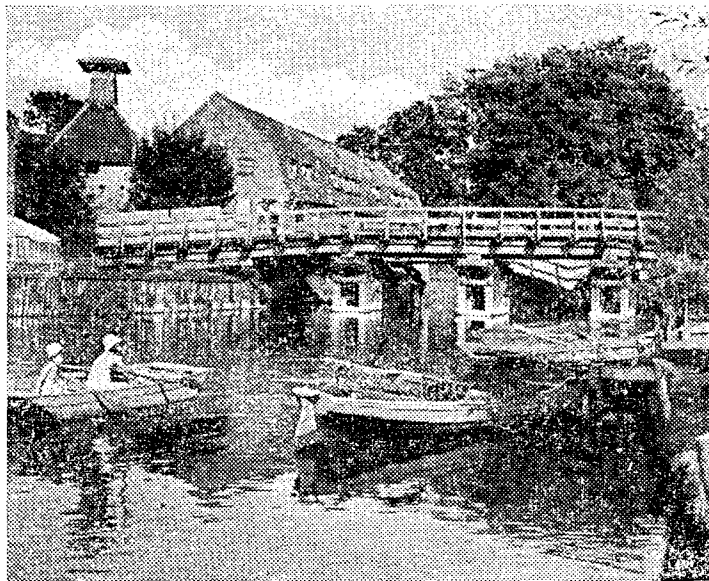
It is the practical way of dealing with it, and the right way of dealing with it, if you want to raise these children; for cleanliness is more comfortable than dirt, and after they have a clean day in the school, they are not willing to go back into the filth of the home; and so they go out as missionaries of cleanliness, teaching their fathers and mothers, their brothers and sisters, and thus the school reacts upon the home, and the whole type is raised by the teaching of the instructed child."

## Gandhi's Tribute

After the First World War Annie Besant devoted her energies to securing independence for India. In 1924, she was elected General Secretary of an Indian Convention which drew up a constitution for an independent India. These proposals were brought to London, and laid before the House of Commons in the form of a Bill.

The time was not yet ripe, however, for India to achieve her freedom, and it has been left to our own times to see the Indian peoples reach the goal which Annie Besant had at heart.

Annie Besant worked hard for the welfare of the country in which she spent so many years of her life. On the centenary of her birth let us remember that another great worker in the same field, Mahatma Gandhi, paid tribute to her as "That tireless servant of India."



THIS ENGLAND

On the Little Ouse at Brandon, in Suffolk

# A SCHOOL CLOSES DOWN

FAMOUS in history as the defender of Lucknow in 1857, with 1000 Europeans and 800 natives against 7000 rebels, Sir Henry Lawrence was also a social benefactor.

A hundred years ago, at Sanawar in the hills near Simla, he founded a small boarding school for the education of the children of British soldiers in India in an atmosphere far removed from unsuitable barrack conditions. Sanawar grew into a school for 500 boys and girls, and in due course the Army took it over.

Now that the British Army is leaving India, Lawrence's school at Sanawar is closing down, in its centenary year. Its proud record, however, will be remembered along with its humane founder, whose vision benefited thousands of British children.

## Quads in Uniform



The St Neots Quads (Paul, Michael, Ernest, and Ann Miles) three Scouts and a Guide, open a Jamboree at Biggleswade, Bedfordshire.

## THIS KIND WORLD

"To watch a child taste its first piece of candy; or see a Japanese man handle a precious bar of soap as if it were a diamond ring; witness the pride and delight of lepers who can at last have salve and clean bandages for their wounds and shoes that make it possible for them to go out into the field and help with the garden work—these are some of the soul-stirring experiences of work here."

So write the representatives of American relief organisations in Japan, reporting that up to August 400,000 Japanese have been helped with food, clothing, and medicine sent from America. Many letters of pathetic gratitude for help reach America; one invalid, for example, wrote:

"I was presented plenty of good foods by you. I was very glad and I have no words to thank you for your kindness to give a food for the enemy. I'm shy (he probably meant ashamed) because we, Japanese, were not kind to you, especially to capture during the war."

In reading these letters and reports we realise that our own difficulties and shortages are still slight compared with those facing most other countries.



## The Shepherd and His Dog

THE winning of the International Sheep Dog trials by a Scottish shepherd, John Gilchrist—and, of course, his dog Spot—is a reminder that such tests have only been publicly carried out on a large scale in modern times. It was only in 1906 that the International Sheep Dog Society was formed "to stimulate public interest in the shepherd and his dog," and the 150-guinea challenge cup which John Gilchrist and Spot won at Cardiff is regarded as the "Blue Riband of the Heather."

To enter the International trials a shepherd or farmer must have won first prize in his local events. By low whistle, snap of the finger, or a quiet call to his dog "the handler," as he is known in sheep dog circles, must be in perfect harmony with his dog.

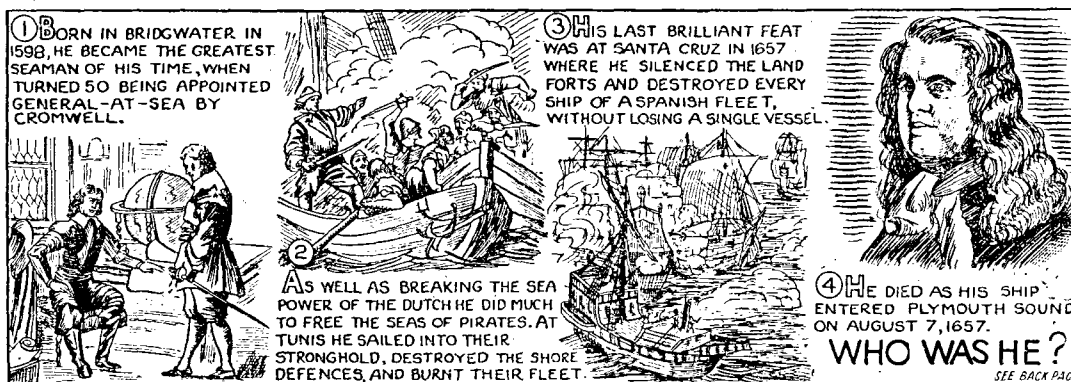
### Gathering the Sheep

There is no more searching test of the abilities of dog and shepherd than the course for the international championship. First, the dog has to make a run to the right to gather a flock of ten sheep from a point half-a-mile away from the shepherd. He must then bring them between a pair of hurdles to a point near the shepherd, leave them there and make a further run to the left to gather and bring back a further ten sheep. The combined flock of 20 is then driven diagonally 200 yards, passed through a gate, turned and driven crosswise for a further 200 yards, passed through another gate, turned, and brought back to the shepherd. Five marked sheep must then be separated from the rest, within a marked ring 50 yards across, and finally these five sheep must be driven into the six-foot-square pen.

The English collie breed of dog is still considered to make the best sheep dog, and the result of 40 years of the International trials shows that the sheep dog used to the largest sheep-runs over the moors of Scotland and the North of England or Wales is usually the likeliest to win a high place.

## WHO WAS HE?

## Picture-Story of a Great Admiral



## THE BIRDS STAY AT HOME IN COLOMBIA

ONCE more the birds that come to us for the summer are leaving on the long flight that bears them to the warmth and sunshine of Africa. Once more, as these fly forth, myriads of other birds are winging their way from the North, to pass the winter as our guests.

The goings and returnings of these little travellers are as constant as the ocean tides, and, seeing the wonder twice a year, we may imagine that birds of all lands obey similar impulses, and make spring and autumn migrations. But this law does not everywhere apply. In parts of

South America there is virtually no bird migration; the birds stay from season to season where they were born.

The most notable example is Colombia, dominated by the towering Andes mountains, running throughout from south to north, with heights, crowned with eternal snow, rising to nearly 20,000 feet. Here the bird population is stationary, yet without parallel in the extraordinary number of its species. Each species has its own territory and climate, and has been specialised for the life appropriate to its surroundings. At the

foot of the mountains are purely tropical conditions; higher there are conditions more like our own; higher still the scene and circumstances are Arctic or Alpine. A mere ten minutes after beginning an uphill walk a man may find birds completely unlike those in whose company he began his upward jaunt.

The birds do not, they cannot, change their quarters. Food and temperature of the character they need are about them, not above, not below, not beyond in the vast deep valleys dividing chain from chain of the mountain system. The consequence of this unparalleled isolation is that there has been a gradual branching here, through the ages, into an astounding number of species. Naturalists who have devoted years to this study have been able to identify upwards of 1150 species of birds in Colombia, which is more than twice as many species as are to be found in the United States, Canada, and Greenland combined.

There these birds of Colombia remain all the year round, prosperous, content, in numbers beyond counting, without anxiety or ambition.

It is all marvellous in our eyes, yet it is the valiant flight, the coming and going, the challenge to peril and hazard of our winged migrants that constitute more than half the charm and wonder with which these feathered travellers stir us.

## Learning a Trade

A GREAT opportunity to train for a skilled job is given to many young people by a new Ministry of Labour scheme.

Many boys and girls have an obvious aptitude for some skilled craft, but their homes happen to be far from any place where they could be trained, and their parents cannot afford to keep them in some distant town while they receive training. Such gifted young people miss the chance to learn a skilled job—and, what is equally important, the nation loses the contribution they could make to its economic life.

Under the new scheme a grant will be made to these young people to enable them to train under employers in areas distant

from their homes. These grants will be made to selected boys and girls who have not yet started work, to those who are unemployed, and others who are in "dead-end" jobs.

The grant includes travelling and settling-in expenses, a weekly allowance for board and lodging, midday meals, and fares between lodgings and work-place. Pocket money will be nine shillings at fifteen, 12s at sixteen, and 16s at seventeen for both boys and girls. Employers will be expected to contribute towards these expenses, and so will parents according to their incomes.

The scheme will help the rising generation to make the most of its inherent skill.

## Australia's Little Brothers

At the beginning of the year the CN wrote of the Big Brother Movement for helping British boys to emigrate to Australia, which was starting again after being interrupted by the war. Not long ago the first party of 18 boys, called Little Brothers, arrived in Australia where each of the lads found awaiting him an Australian who will act as his Big Brother. Three of the Big Brothers had themselves come out as Little Brothers in 1939.

It is hoped that another party of 23 boys will sail in S S Ormond on October 10, another 27 in December, and parties every other month after that.

Lads who wish to become Little Brothers must be between the ages of 16 and 17, and it costs each boy £10 10s 6d to go to Australia. His fare, under the Assisted Passage Scheme, is £5 "from door to door." Three pounds is given to him for pocket money on the voyage, £2 is taken from him in England and refunded to him for pocket money when he arrives at Sydney. There is a doctor's fee of 10s 6d for a medical examination.

### Farmers in the Making

New South Wales is at present the only Australian state to which boys are being sent by the Big Brother Movement, and wants to receive 500 a year.

To begin with, boys are being selected for agricultural work only. A magnificent training farm, 20 miles from Sydney, is being opened and here youths with no previous experience of farming will be trained for two months in its rudiments.

When the young men arrive in Australia they go immediately either to this training farm or to jobs on farms up-country. The Movement has three representatives constantly touring the State to ensure that the Little Brothers are settling down happily in their new homes.

More details can be had from The Secretary, Big Brother Movement, Australia House, Strand, London, WC 2.

## MR MIDSHIPMAN EASY—Captain Marryat's Great Story of the Sea, Told in Pictures



Trapped on the roof of Don Ribiera's burning house, Jack and his friends saw the troops arrive and capture the galley-slaves. But the soldiers could not find a ladder long enough to reach the roof. Then Mesty found a loose board in the flat roof. They pulled it up, climbed down into a room that was not on fire, and thus escaped from the house.



The whole party went to Palermo. There Jack told Don Ribiera of his love for Agnes; but her father would not agree to their engagement until Jack received his father's consent. Jack returned to Malta where he received news of his mother's death and his father's illness.



The Governor of Malta advised Jack to resign from the Navy and return to England to look after his father's estates; for Mr Easy, senior, was a rich man and Jack was his only child. Saddened by his loss, anxious about his father, and thinking wistfully of Agnes, Jack returned to his home in Hampshire. His faithful Mesty was allowed to go with him. Soon after Jack arrived his father died.



Forlorn, though rich now, Jack resolved to bring Agnes to England. But civilian sea-travel was difficult in wartime, so Jack decided to go in his own ship. At Portsmouth he bought a fine vessel and took out a licence as a Privateer—empowering a private person to fight Britain's enemies. Engaging a crew, he then set sail.

**Captain of his own ship! What new adventures await Jack? See next week's instalment**



## Colossal Sun in Eruption

By the C.N. Astronomer

MIRA, "the Wonderful," a star in the great constellation of Cetus, is blazing up, and we may in the course of the next couple of months see this star grow from extreme faintness up to a brilliancy of, perhaps, second magnitude; this means that at maximum Mira may have increased its outpouring of light and heat by 10,000 times.

This star may be only just perceptible at present; so in addition to the star-map of Cetus in the C.N. for September 20 the accompanying star map, on a much enlarged scale, shows the region just round Mira.

No bright stars appear near Mira, but there are several faint ones which may be easily seen through glasses, and these are shown on the map. After each successive outburst Mira dwindles in brilliance to about ninth magnitude, and vanishes from naked-eye perception. In this condition it remains for about



Where to look for Mira

six months; then it begins to flare up again, and in the course of between three and four months the star will reach a maximum of anything from 1000 to 10,000 times its former brilliance.

After a week to ten days of greatest outburst this giant sun's cataclysm of fire begins to subside, and in the course of a few months diminishes to normal faintness. Sometimes, as in 1936, Mira reaches second magnitude brilliancy, but sometimes only fourth; moreover the times vary somewhat, and during the last few years the maxima have occurred at times unsuited for observation.

Mira has a diameter of about 260 million miles, some 300 times greater than our Sun, so were it as near to us it would cover most of the sky at midday. But Mira is fortunately 10,320,000 times farther away than our Sun, and its light takes 163 years to reach us, so the blaze-up that we hope to see took place in 1784.

Mira is a vast rotating mass of tumultuous fiery gases and lurid flame from which great eruptive outbursts, chiefly of incandescent hydrogen, soar upwards at terrific speed for many millions of miles. This increases to a maximum of fiery fury, then the erupted material cools and most of it falls back. Mira is gradually screened with the darker clouds of cooler gases, and becomes fainter and fainter as seen from our far-away world. Later on these screening clouds are again rent as another outburst begins a fresh cycle.

Mira has a big planetary body which probably revolves round Mira; it is at a distance of about 6000 million miles and comparatively safe from Mira's outbursts, for this is more than twice the distance of Neptune from our Sun. This body radiates only about one-fiftieth of the light that our Sun does in its present fiery stage, but may resemble Jupiter long ages hence.

G. F. M.

## LAND OF FIRE!

### New Life For One of the World's Forgotten Areas

TIERRA DEL FUEGO—Land of Fire!—There is romance in the very name of the world's most southerly inhabited area. Seldom, indeed, does this great island which lies at the extremity of South America come into the news; but Argentina's announcement of a big development programme for the half which belongs to her has put Tierra del Fuego "on the map," as it were.

The name Tierra del Fuego, was bestowed on the island by Ferdinand Magellan when, in 1520, he discovered his Strait, and, following its winding, perilous way, passed from the Atlantic to the Pacific on the earliest voyage round the world.

#### Names on the Map

Distracted by desertion among his ships, and by mutiny and murder among his crews, the great navigator, looking southward, saw territory on which fires were blazing. It seemed to him a colossal, undying bonfire, so he called it Land of Fire, which is the meaning of Tierra del Fuego. The fires—probably the work of native hands—vanished long ago and popular legend peopled the area with cannibal giants dwelling amid eternal snow and desolation.

Many British names on the map hereabouts tell of sailor scientists who helped to dispel the mysteries—the islands of Gordon, Stewart, Londonderry, Wollaston, Dawson, and Clarence, with Brecknock Peninsula, the mountain named after Darwin, and the channel called Beagle after the ship in which he sailed. But the erroneous views of some of the explorers, shown in names, such as Desolation Land, and Useless Bay, continued the fables elsewhere banished. Actually, Tierra del Fuego is the principal island of the archipelago of that name. The eastern half of the island, with Staten Island, belongs to Argentina; all the rest, including Cape Horn, to Chile.

There are no cannibal giants, but the most notable of the three dwindling native tribes does boast men whose height averages five feet ten inches. Their

language, too, although it cannot count beyond five and has the same term for finger as for hand, has over 30,000 words, all preserved in writing by missionaries.

The fable of eternal ice and snow crowning perpetual fire slowly dissolved into the fact that Tierra del Fuego's real climate permits the growth of an annual crop of barley, of potatoes, and other food. Slow but steady immigration brought prosperity to the territory through cattle-breeding and sheep-raising—with 250,000 sheep now for sale yearly.

But all past efforts are to be eclipsed, according to Argentine intentions. Señor Miguel Miranda, prime mover in Argentina national economy, has been officially instructed to develop the untapped resources of this area. He is to begin the conversion of its great forests of timber into plywood, and paper for printing; he is to establish a sardine cannery, stock the rivers and lakes with salmon, create a woollen yarn industry, and, above all, transform the enormous deposits of peat into fuel and, by distillation, oil. That is the industrial programme for Tierra del Fuego. But Argentina is looking farther afield.

#### Looking Southward

Argentina desires to extend her territorial rights as far as the South Pole. Tierra del Fuego, it is officially made known, would be a suitable jumping-off ground for such a southward extension; for Tierra del Fuego is already the "Farthest South" outpost, and Ushuaia, the capital, is the world's southernmost city. Beyond that, apart from oceanic islands, there is no abiding place for man north of Antarctica.

## Brighter Times at Dunsop Bridge

Here is a story from England's "Outback," telling how the young people have transformed the life of their lonely moorland village.

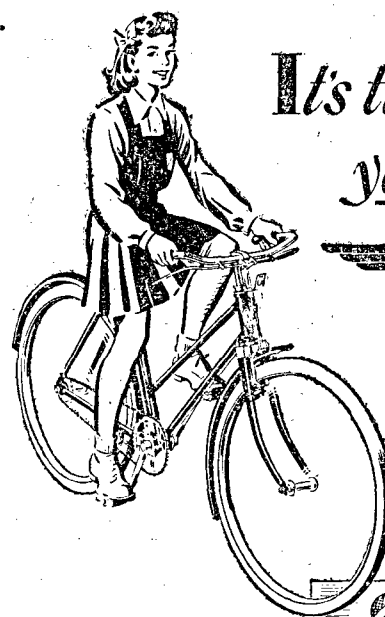
In the fertile valley of the River Hodder lies the isolated village of Dunsop Bridge, giving access to the wild moorland heights of Trough of Bowland. This village in the wild historical borderland of Lancashire and Yorkshire has a population of only 199, and the nearest towns, Clitheroe and Blackburn, are several miles away, buses being available only on Saturdays.

Early in 1944, Mr Arthur Garrand of the Duchy of Lancaster, owners of the surrounding land, persuaded the young people to form a youth council. Today this council has forty members ranging from 16 to 30 years, and has its headquarters in a white-washed loft near the village post office. Since starting, the council has transformed village life, and no longer do the villagers seek recreation and culture in distant towns.

A comprehensive list of events covering the whole year includes weekly or monthly gramophone recitals, films on farming and documentary subjects, Young Farmers' meetings and debates, handicrafts, production of one-act plays and special seasonal events for Christmas, spring, and so on.

The Arts Council of Great Britain, Young Farmers' Clubs, and other organisations have provided profitable study and leisure for the young people in this remote corner of Bowland Forest. Although not yet four years old, Dunsop Bridge Youth Council has firmly established itself with its ingenuity and zeal to prove that the remote countryside can have cultural amenities as good as those of any city suburb. This autumn the council will introduce a Brownie Pack, a Women's Institute, and lectures on social history.

Far from being long and dreary, winter evenings in Dunsop Bridge will be pleasant and profitable.



It's time  
you had a

**BSA**

"You lucky  
girl"  
your friends  
will say



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## What goes on in PARAGUAY?

SOUTH AMERICA  
Well, there is a total population of 1,014,000 who speak Spanish (officially) and Guaraní (in the country). Guaraní is a language of the Indians. Winter is May to September, summer is December to February. They have stamps, of course, and you can get for your collection

50 DIFFERENT PARAGUAY

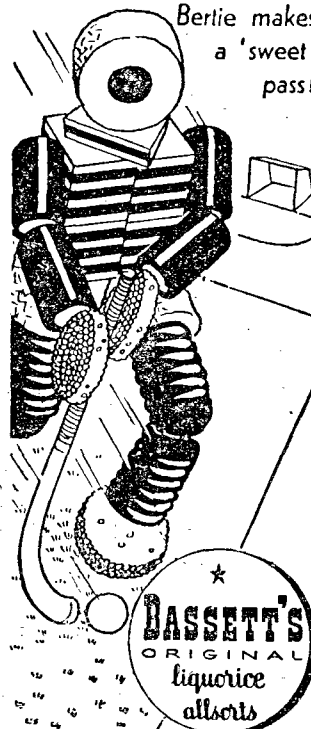
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## AT HOCKEY:

Bertie makes  
a 'sweet'  
pass!



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Walters'  
**Palm**  
**TOFFEE**

Perfection of  
Confections



Here's **FOOD**

RICH IN  
NOURISHMENT

**WELGAR**  
**SHREDDED WHEAT**



## THE BRAN TUB

### SAFETY FIRST

Two linesmen were climbing a telegraph pole to repair a broken line when a car passed by.

"Just look at those two idiots," said the learner-driver to his passenger. "To watch their behaviour any one would think I'd never been on the road before."

### New Testament Characters

Each line of the rhyme shown below contains the name of a New Testament character.

WHEN Nathan drew the gate  
She rode 'neath shady bower,  
The cloister-bell chimed soft  
And marked the evening hour.  
She cried "Pride mastered once  
my heart,  
From loved ones I must now  
depart."

Answer next week

### WITHOUT PREJUDICE

WHEN Sammy Simple was asked whether he was guilty or not guilty he replied: "How do I know until I have heard the evidence."

### The Plural of Rhinoceros

No one for spelling at a loss is  
Who "boldly" writes  
Rhinoceroses.  
I've known a few—I can't say  
lots—  
Who called the beasts  
Rhinocerots;  
Though they are not so bad (Oh,  
fie)  
As those who say Rhinoceri.  
One I have heard—Oh, goodness  
me!  
Who plainly said Rhinocerees,  
While possibly a fourth form boy  
Might venture on Rhinoceroi.

### BEDTIME CORNER

#### Searching For Darkie

JIMMY and Mary were spending a jolly Saturday at their auntie's country cottage.

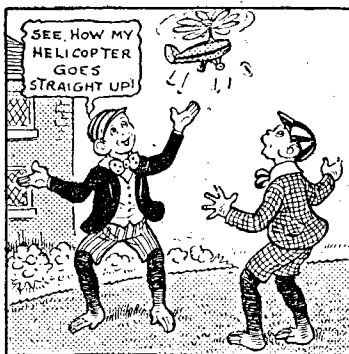
"There's a lovely basket of apples at the Vicarage for you to take home as a surprise for Mummy," Auntie told them. "They phoned me about it this morning. But the Vicarage is across the railway, and there is no bridge near here. You must not cross the line by yourselves; and as I am going out I shall not be able to see you over. But Darkie, who works at the farm down the lane, goes across about five o'clock. Go with him and someone from the Vicarage will see you back. You'll just have time before your train this evening."

At ten to five they went to the farm.

In a barn they saw only a white-haired old man, so they went to the cowshed. But there was no one there, and all the other buildings were deserted. At the farmhouse everyone was out, and when they ran back to ask the old man where Darkie was he too had gone.

"Let's run to the railway," said Mary desperately. "We may see Darkie over there."

They dashed through the woods to a notice-board which said BEWARE OF



Jacko was delighted with his helicopter and demonstrated it to Chimp.



It soared gracefully into the air and then it came down—



—into the lap of an old gentleman, who also "went up into the air."

## Jacko Has His Ups and Downs

### FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

The Giant Horntail. "Crumbs, look!" gasped Don, clutching Farmer Gray's arm and pointing to a huge yellow-and-black insect humming in and out among the treetops.

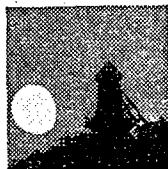
"It's a Horntail and will not hurt you," said the farmer.

"Isn't that a sting at the end of its tail?" asked Don, in relieved tones.

"No, it is an ovipositor and is used for boring holes in trees. In each hole an egg is laid. The grub which hatches out spends several years in the tree, increasing in size, and finally building a chamber of chips in which it turns into chrysalis."

### Other Worlds

IN the evening Jupiter is low in the south-west. In the morning Saturn and Mars are in the south-east. Our picture shows the moon at 9 p.m. on Thursday October 2.



### Generally Speaking

THE doctor came in to the Commanding Officer's room and addressed the batman.

"I believe the General is sick. What is the matter with him?" "Oh, just things in general," came the reply.

### Pussy Language

Pussy plays quite a large part in our everyday speech as these much-used idioms show:

To put up one's back.  
To rub the wrong way.  
To draw in one's claws.  
To have nine lives.  
To let the cat out of the bag.

### Tongue Twister

MALICIOUS malcontents malevolently maligning Milan.

### HOPEFUL

SAID a young man who lived by the sea,  
"A large whale I am sure I can see;  
With my rod and line,  
I'll make that whale mine;  
I'll fry it and have whale steak for tea."

### Who Was He?

THE man in the picture story on page 6 was Admiral Blake.

### Children's Hour

BBC programmes from Wednesday, October 1, to Tuesday, October 7.

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 Poko and the Flibbertigibbitts; Children's Concert; Sound Quiz. North, 5.0 The Plover Patrol. West, 5.0 Two Poems; Songs. 5.30 Clipping the Yews at Painswick.

THURSDAY, 5.0 Four Plus Bunkie (5). Welsh, 5.30 The Ballet Shoes.

FRIDAY, 5.0 Nicholas Thomas gets into Trouble (Part 1); Uncle Heliotrope (Part 1). Scottish, 5.0 Little Black Mammy; Bells.

SATURDAY, 5.0 Worzel Gummidge in the Treasure Ship (1). N. Ireland, 5.0 First Aid Quiz; News Talk; Young Artists. North, 5.0 An English girl in France; Spelling Bee.

SUNDAY, 5.0 John Halifax, Gentleman (Part 1). North, 5.0 Wandering with Nomad; Songs and Piano Solos.

MONDAY, 5.0 Alice in Wonderland (Part 3). 5.30 Cowleaze Farm. N. Ireland, 5.30 Forthcoming Programmes; Grey One—The Heron; Young Artists. North, 5.0 Nursery Sing-song; Children's Newsreel; Is this your Hobby? Scottish, 5.30 Nature Scrapbook.

TUESDAY, 5.0 Records; Little Munira. 5.40 Pictures in the Tate Gallery. N. Ireland, 5.0 Peter Comes in From the Farm. 5.30 Sports Quiz. North, 5.0 Your Own Ideas; 5.30 Sports Quiz. Scottish, 5.0 Tammy Toot Story. 5.15 Down at the Mains.

### INSOMNIA

Two tramps were lying on a haystack.

"I've not been sleeping so well lately," said one.

"What's the trouble?" asked other.

"Well, I sleep all right at night and I sleep all right in the morning, but in the afternoon I get kinda restless."

### WISDOM OF SHAKESPEARE

OH, it is excellent to have a giant's strength; but it is tyrannous to use it like a giant.

### LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

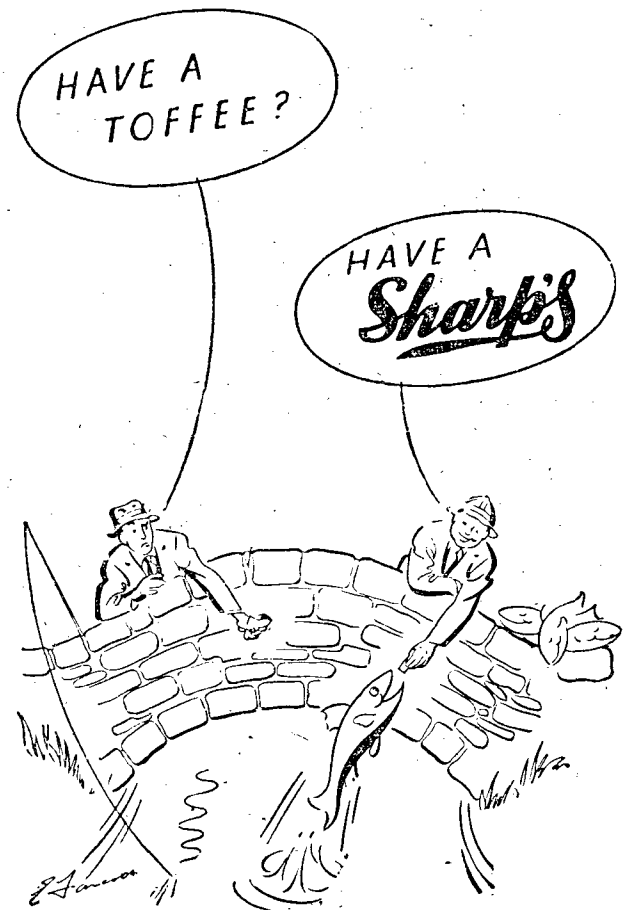
Meet a Friend

Jacko

Beheading

Trail, rail, ail

MUSIC	LOT
A	NUT PA
S	STEAMER
T	TAPE MANE
B	BARRAGE
B	BARN RIDS
O	OCEANIC O
R	RULES IN
E	ESK E KING



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